ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An optical element of which diffraction efficiency hardly varies with wavelength is provided by using an optical material satisfying the conditions that $n_d > -6.667 \times 10^{-3} \nu_d + 1.70$ and $\theta_{g,F} \leq -2 \times 10^{-3} \nu_d + 0.59$ where n_d is a refractive index at d-line, ν_d is an Abbe number at the d-line, and $\theta_{g,F}$ is a second order dispersion at d-line, whereby diffraction efficiency is improved in any working visible wavelength region and more precise chromatic aberration correction is obtained.